

INTERVIEW

Dean Clifford  
Math's Teacher



## Phoenix College

### *How did you get into teaching?*

Originally, I had no plans to become a teacher, but I did some volunteer teaching whilst at university and then spent a year teaching in Jamaica after graduating from university.

### *Tell us a little about your time as a teacher?*

I started teaching at a state school in Birmingham. Since then I have worked in international schools in Spain and China teaching the UK and IB syllabus.

### *What do you enjoy most about being a teacher?*

I like the instant feedback you get from students. I think it is much easier to see the impact that you can make as a teacher as opposed to other professions.

### *What do you enjoy most about Phoenix College?*

I have to say that the students here at Phoenix College are amazing and it is a pleasure to teach them. I have worked with Kirsty, Jim, Alex, Nicola and Ruth previously and it is great to be part of such a supportive and professional team.



## Let's Get Personal...

### *What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?*

Go to university. I was not convinced it was the best thing to do, but it opens up opportunities that you may not yet be aware of.

### *If you were on a desert island and you could only have three items with you, what would you choose?*

A big book of sudoku puzzles  
A coffee machine  
Suntan lotion.

### *What is your ultimate go-to gadget or app?*

I do quite a lot of cycling and when I get lost (sometimes) Google Maps comes to my rescue.

### *If you could have dinner with two famous people (dead or alive), who would you choose and why?*

I would choose to have dinner with people I already know so that I am guaranteed to have a good time.

### *Three words that best describe you:*

Organised, fair and cautious.